

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

#### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): A pharmaceutical composition for prevention or inhibition of progression of diabetic complication, which is prepared for administration before meal and comprises metformin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof, wherein the amount to be administered as a single dose is 5 to 45 mg.
2. (original): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the composition is prepared for administration just before meal.
3. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the composition is to be administered three times a day before each meal for 4 weeks or more.
4. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein the amount to be administered as a single dose is 5 to 22 mg.

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5. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~claim 4~~claim 1 wherein the amount to be administered as a single dose is 10 to 11 mg and the active ingredient is mitiglinide calcium salt hydrate.

6. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1 wherein the dissolution time for 75% release in the first fluid of the Japanese Pharmacopoeia is 20 minutes or less.

7. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~claim 1~~any of claims 1 to 6 wherein the diabetic complication is diabetic microvascular complication.

8. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~claim 7~~claim 1 wherein the diabetic microvascular complication is diabetic retinopathy.

9. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~claim 7~~claim 1 wherein the diabetic microvascular complication is diabetic nephropathy.

10. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in ~~claim 1~~any of claims 1 to 6 wherein the diabetic complication is arteriosclerotic diseases.

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11. (original): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression of diabetic complication, which comprises administrating before meal 5 to 45 mg of mitiglinide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate thereof as a single dose.

12. (original): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression as claimed in claim 11 wherein the single dose is 5 to 22 mg.

13. (currently amended): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression as claimed in claim 11~~claim 12~~ wherein the single dose is 10 to 11 mg and the active ingredient is mitiglinide calcium salt hydrate.

14. (currently amended): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression as claimed in claim 11~~any of claims 11 to 13~~ wherein the number of doses a day is three.

15. (currently amended): A method for prevention or inhibition of progression as claimed in claim 11~~any of claims 11 to 14~~ wherein the treatment period is 4 weeks or more.

Claim 16 (canceled).